

THE VILTRUMITE WAR

THE BEST SUPERHERO COMIC BOOK IN THE UNIVERSE!!

image

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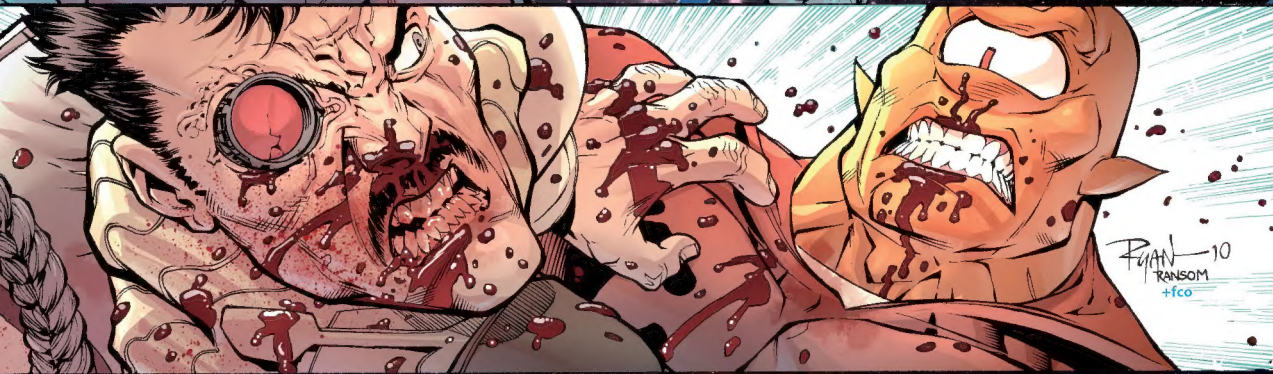
75

\$5.99

INVINCIBLE



ROBERT KIRKMAN
RYAN OTTLEY
CLIFF RATHBURN
FCO PLASCENCIA



RYAN
RANSOM
+FCO

THE VILTRUMITE WAR

THE BEST SUPERHERO COMIC BOOK IN THE WORLD!

INVINCIBLE

Image

SYNCHRONIZED

75

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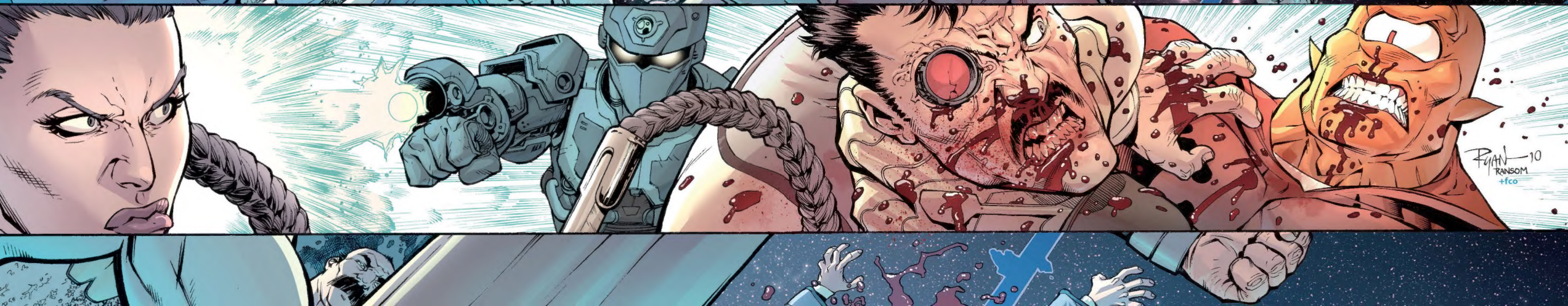


image COMICS PRESENTS

INVINCIBLE

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WRITER

RYAN OTTLEY
PENCILER, INKER pages 18-21, 30, 32-35

CLIFF RATHBURN
INKER pages 1-17, 22-29, 31, 36

FCO PLASCENCIA
COLORIST

RUS WOOTON
LETTERER

SHEILA SALDANA
IVAN PLASCENCIA
COLOR ASSISTANTS

SINA GRACE
EDITOR

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RYAN OTTLEY pencils **RANSOM GETTY** inks
FCO PLASCENCIA colors

VARIANT COVER

RYAN OTTLEY pencils & inks
FCO PLASCENCIA colors

CREATED BY

ROBERT KIRKMAN & CORY WALKER

SCIENCE DOG BACK-UP STORY

ROBERT KIRKMAN
WRITER

CORY WALKER
PENCILER, INKER

DAVE STEWART
COLORIST

RUS WOOTON
LETTERER

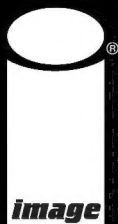


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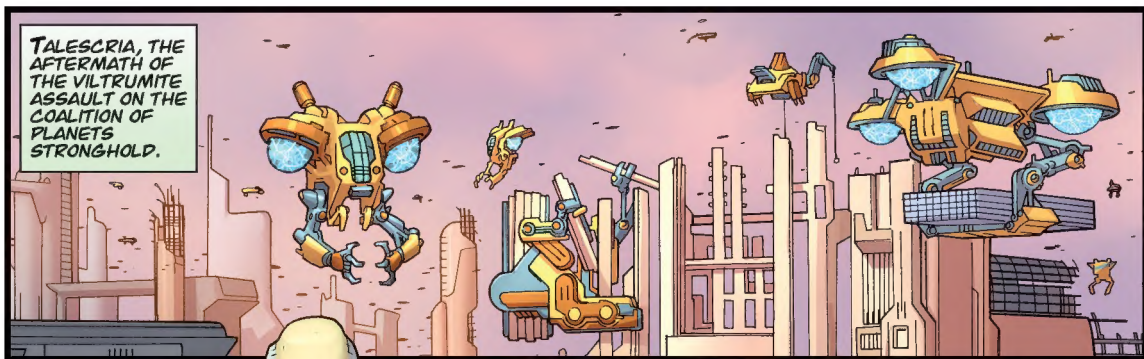
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TALESCRIA, THE
AFTERMATH OF
THE VILTRUMITE
ASSAULT ON THE
COALITION OF
PLANETS
STRONGHOLD.



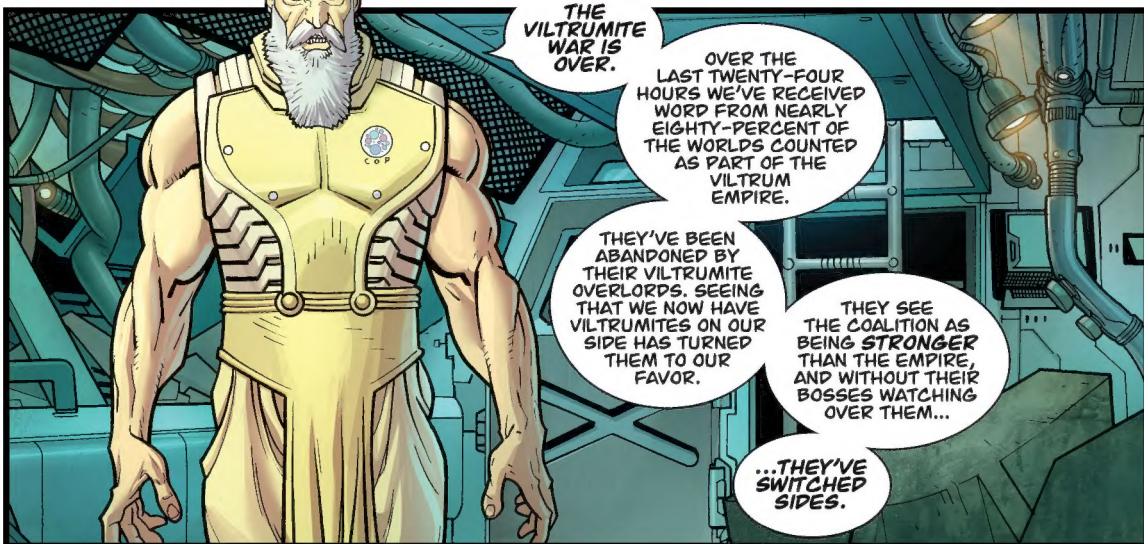
THE
VILTRUMITE
WAR IS
OVER.

OVER THE
LAST TWENTY-FOUR
HOURS WE'VE RECEIVED
WORD FROM NEARLY
EIGHTY-PERCENT OF
THE WORLDS COUNTED
AS PART OF THE
VILTRUM
EMPIRE.

THEY'VE BEEN
ABANDONED BY
THEIR VILTRUMITE
OVERLORDS. SEEING
THAT WE NOW HAVE
VILTRUMITES ON OUR
SIDE HAS TURNED
THEM TO OUR
FAVOR.

THEY SEE
THE COALITION AS
BEING **STRONGER**
THAN THE EMPIRE,
AND WITHOUT THEIR
BOSSSES WATCHING
OVER THEM...

...THEY'VE
SWITCHED
SIDES.



BUT WHERE
HAVE THESE
VILTRUMITES
GONE?

THEIR RECENT
DISAPPEARANCE
SEEMS TO CORROBORATE
MY ASSISTANT'S INTEL
ABOUT THE VILTRUMITES
REGROUPING ON VILTRUM,
STAGING ONE FINAL
STRIKE AGAINST
US.

THIS IS
THEIR LAST
GASP--AND
IT WILL NOT
SUCCEED.

WE WILL
LAUNCH A
COUNTER-ATTACK.
WE WILL STRIKE
BEFORE THEY HAVE
TIME TO DO ANY
PLANNING.

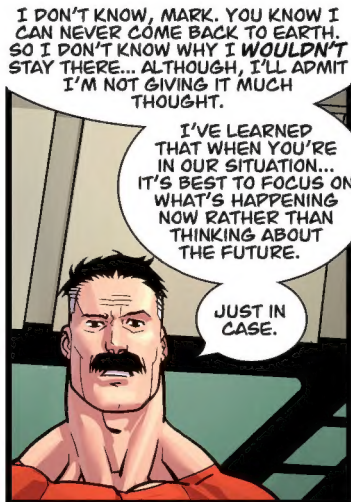
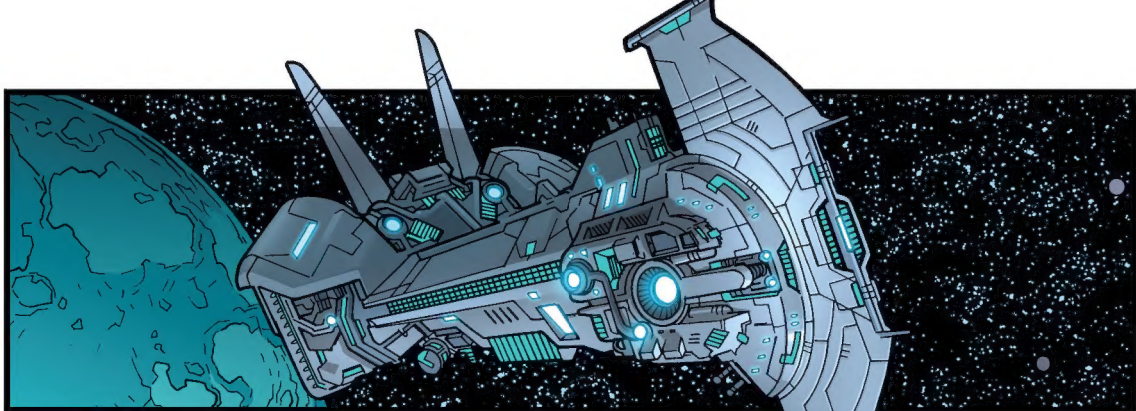
WE WILL
MEET THEM
ON THEIR HOME
TURF AND DESTROY
WHAT LITTLE HOPE
THEY HAVE OF
SUCCEEDING.

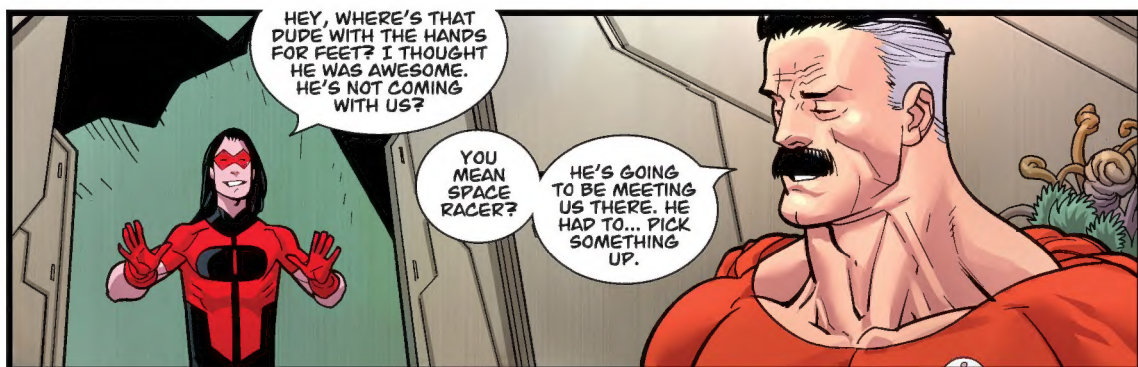


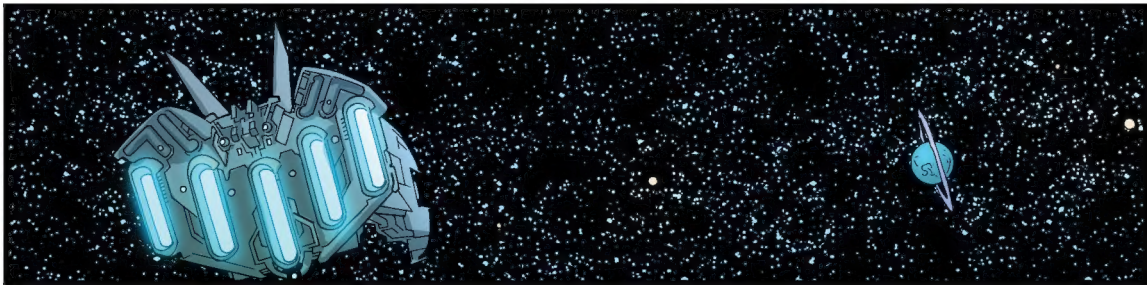


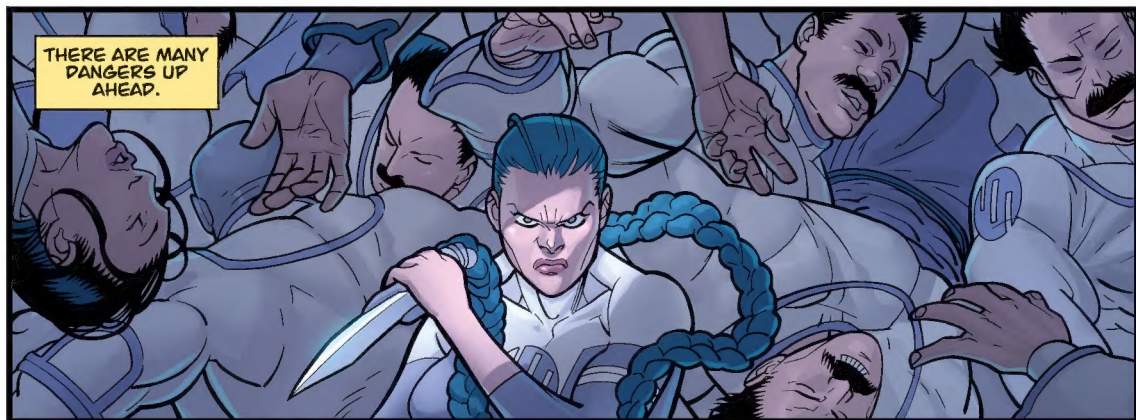
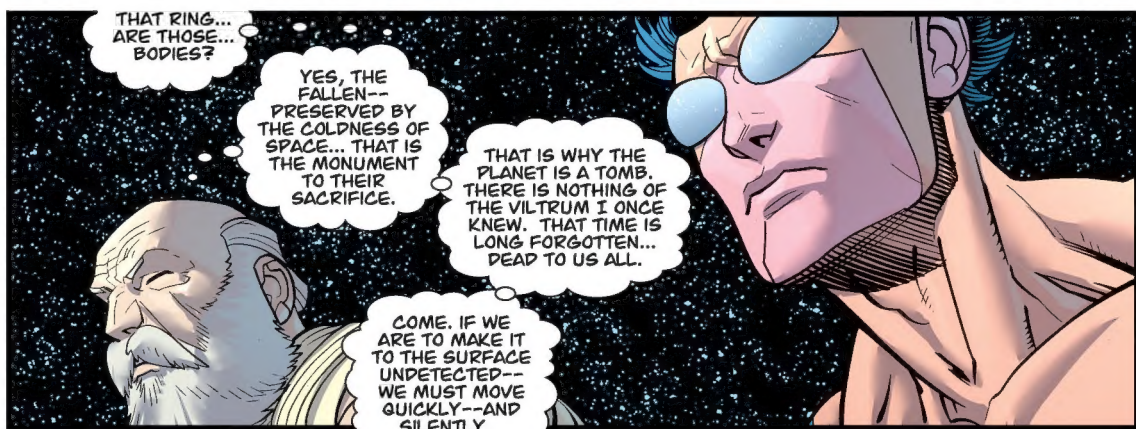
ARE YOU
READY
TO FINISH
THIS?

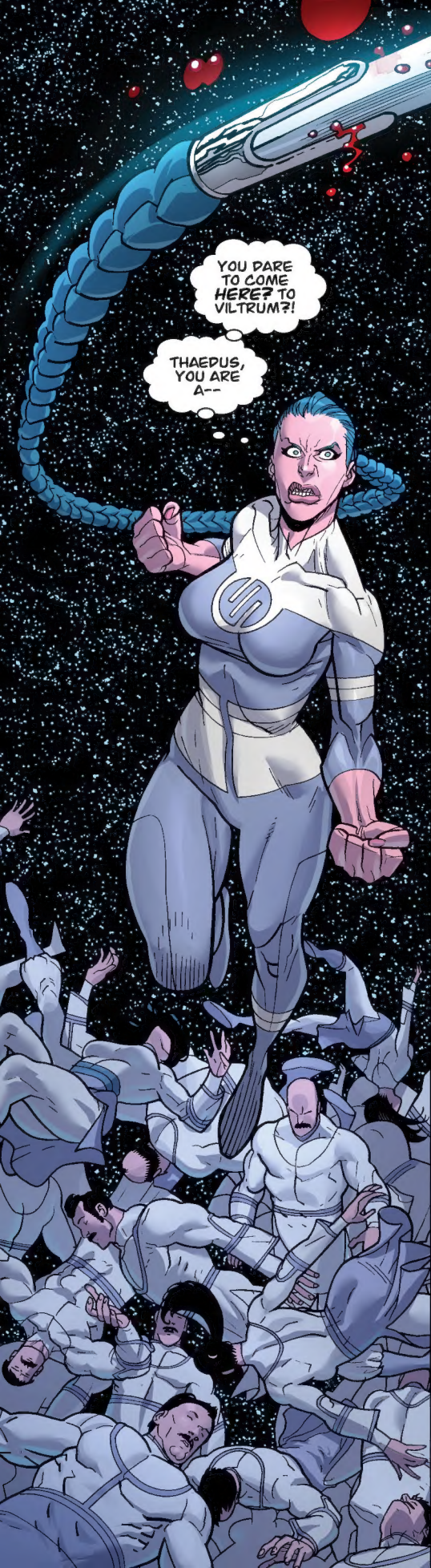
HELL
YEAH!





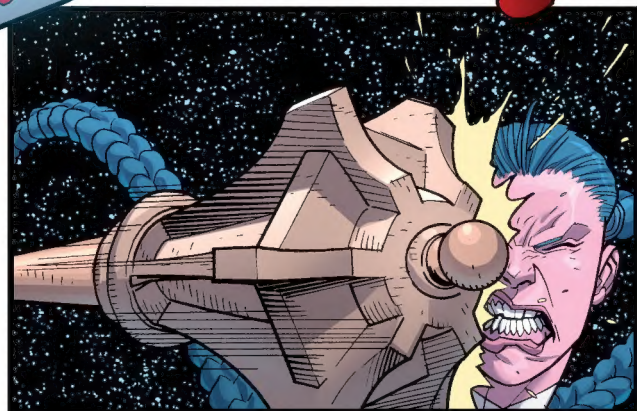






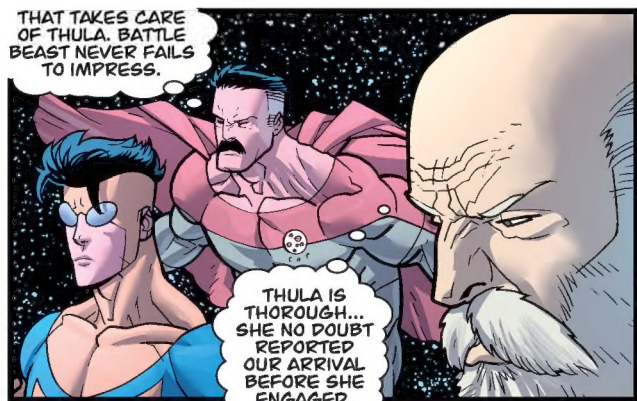
YOU DARE
TO COME
HERE? TO
VILTRUM?!

THAEDUS,
YOU ARE
A--



TOO MUCH
THINKING!
MORE
FIGHTING!

MORE!



THAT TAKES CARE
OF THULA. BATTLE
BEAST NEVER FAILS
TO IMPRESS.

THULA IS
THOROUGH...
SHE NO DOUBT
REPORTED
OUR ARRIVAL
BEFORE SHE
ENGAGED.



LOOKS
LIKE IT!

OKAY...
THIS IS IT,
EVERYONE.

GET
READY.



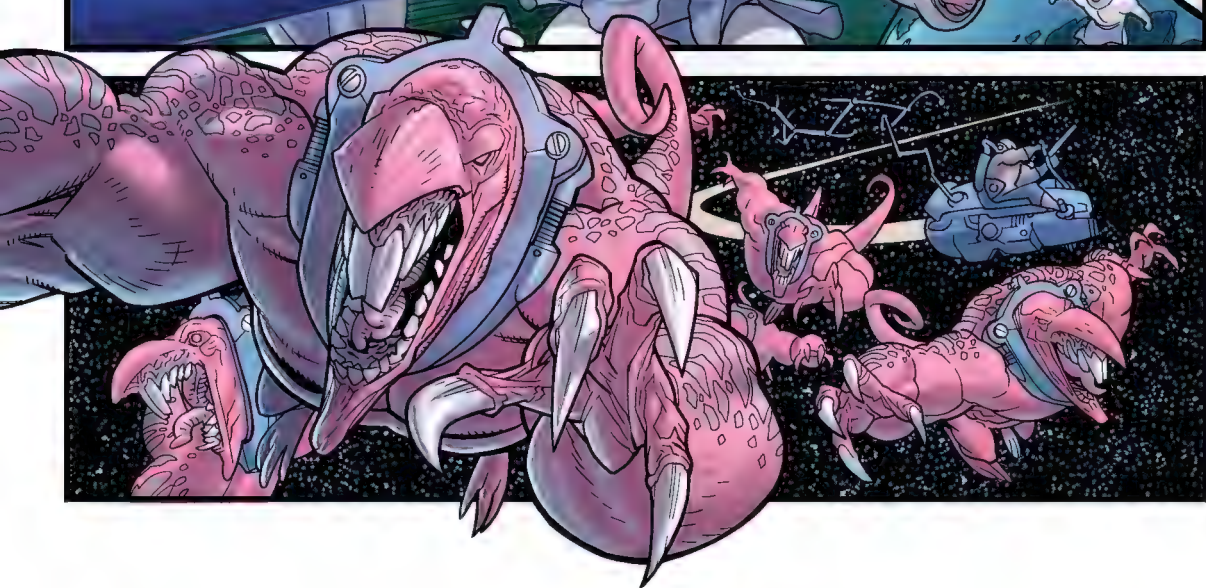
TO ALL
WHO MAKE
THEMSELVES
ENEMIES OF
THE VILTRUM
EMPIRE--!

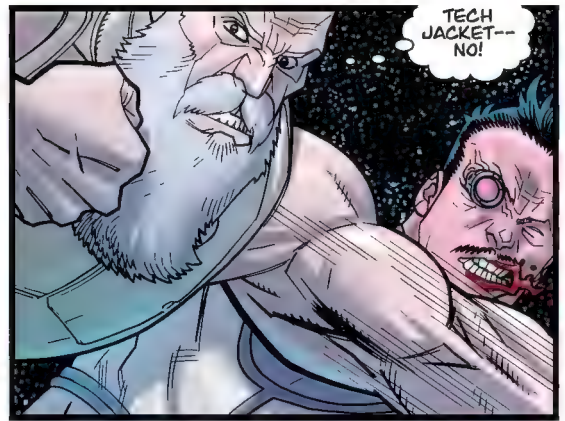
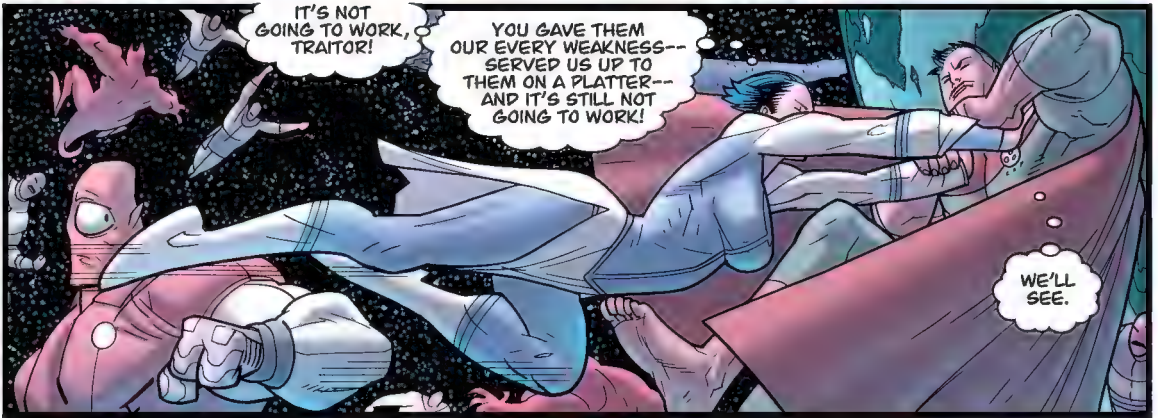
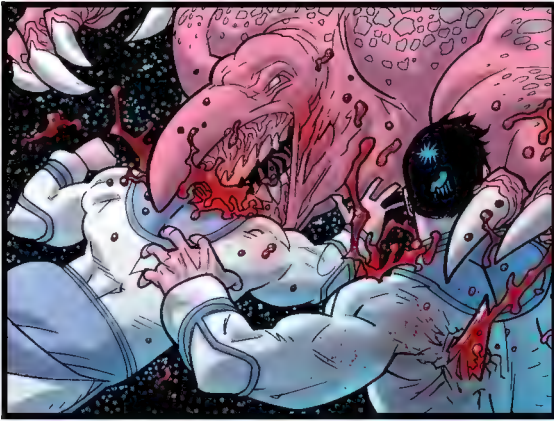
PREPARE
FOR YOUR
DEATHS!

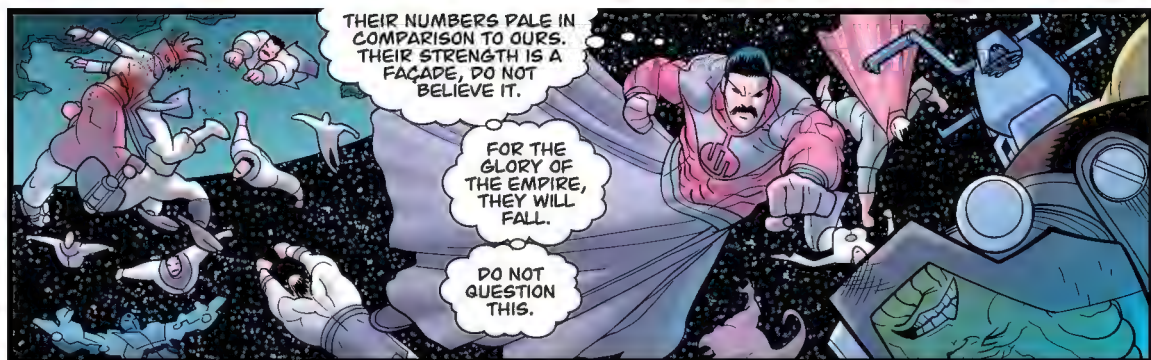
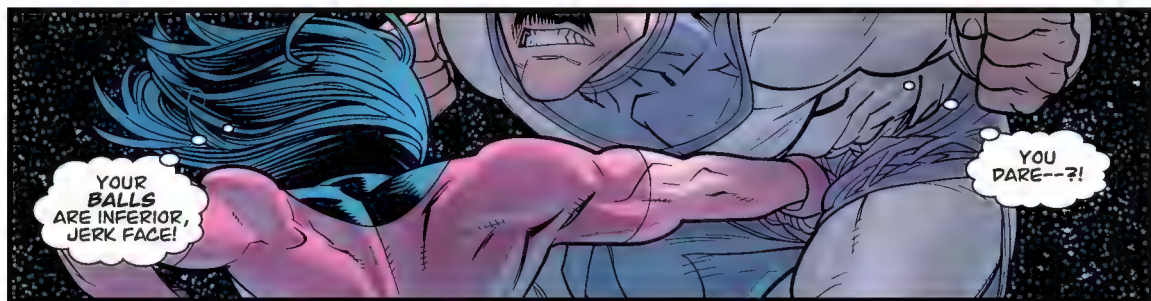
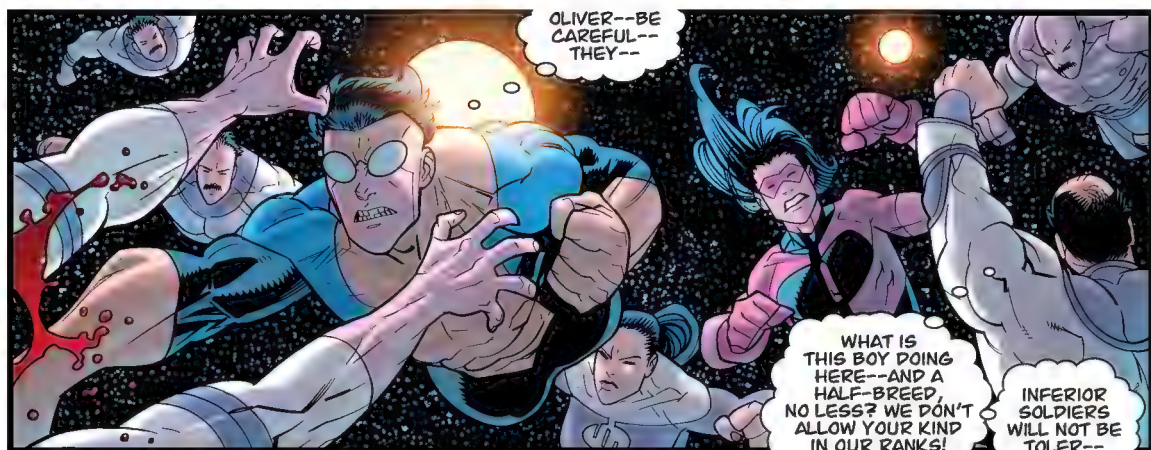
WE ARE GROSSLY
OUT-NUMBERED...
MOVE FAST FROM
OPPONENT TO OPPONENT.
TRY NOT TO LET THEM
OVERPOWER YOU--WE'RE
GOING TO NEED TO MOVE
QUICKLY IF WE'RE TO
SURVIVE THIS.

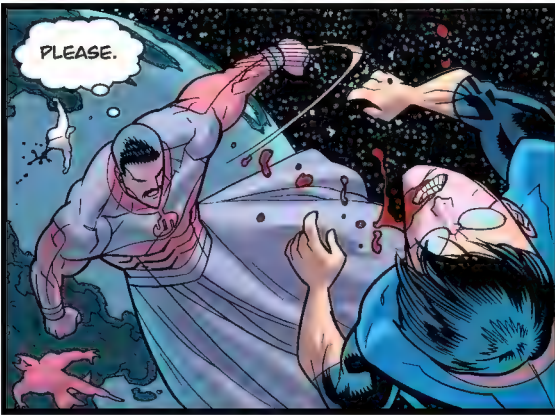
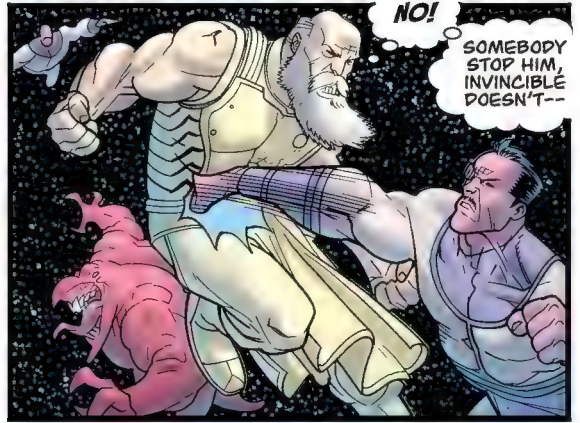
IF ONLY
SPACE
RACER
COULD--













OLIVER!

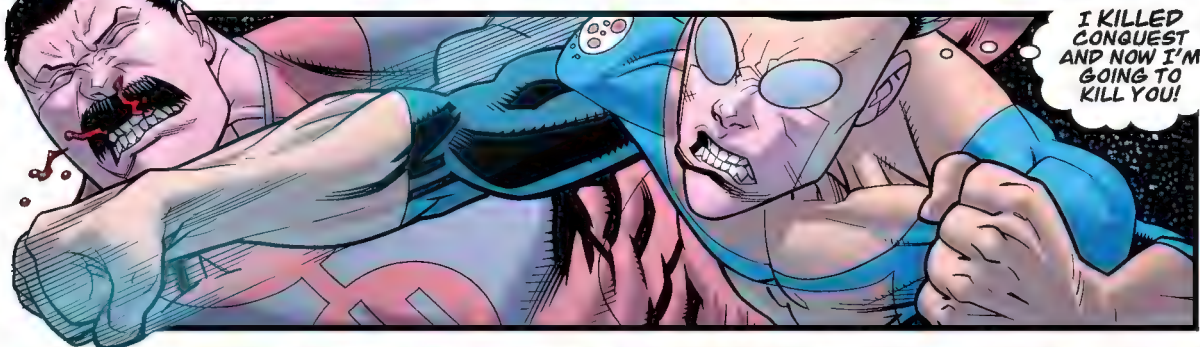
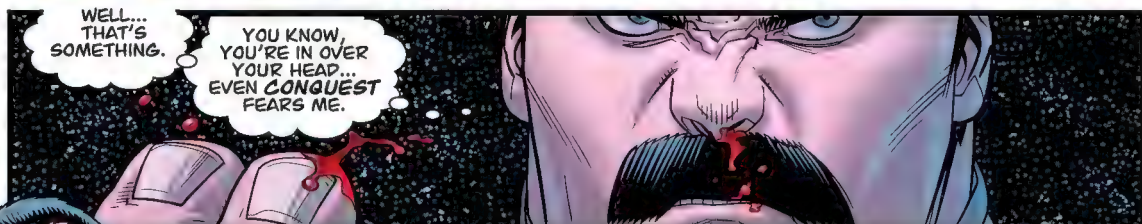
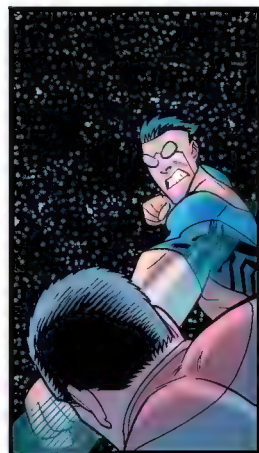
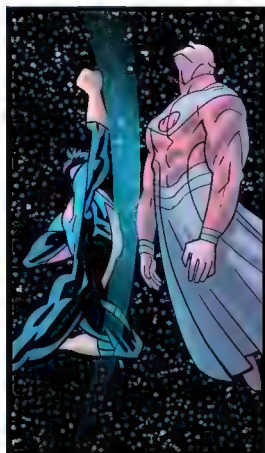
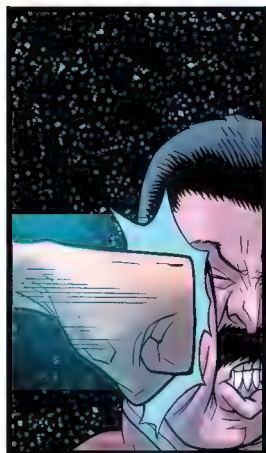
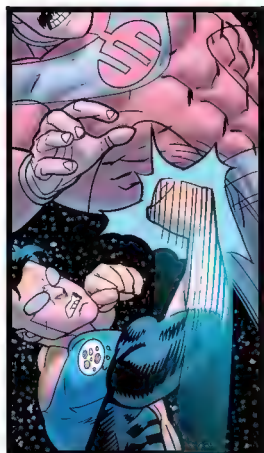
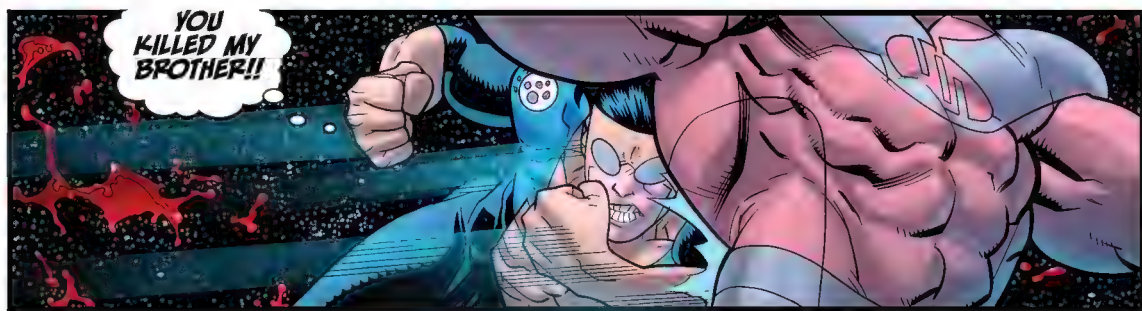


GET BACK HERE!



SEEMED LIKE SUCH A NICE BOY...

MY BROTHER...



WHAT HE SAYS
IS TRUE--MY
SON KILLED
CONQUEST!

STILL SO
CONFIDENT
IN YOUR
VICTORY?

NOW,
WHILE THEY'RE
DISTRACTED--
WE HAVE TO MAKE A
MOVE--SOMETHING
THEY WON'T
EXPECT.

SPACE
RACER--
TO ME!

YES!

YES!!

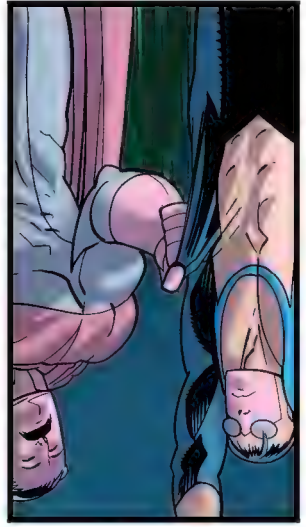
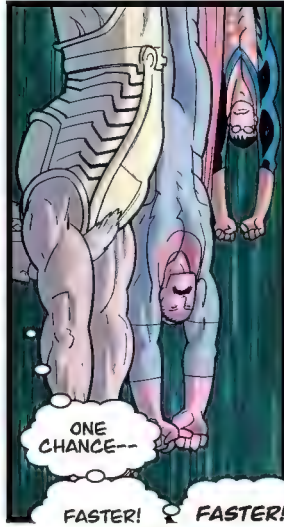
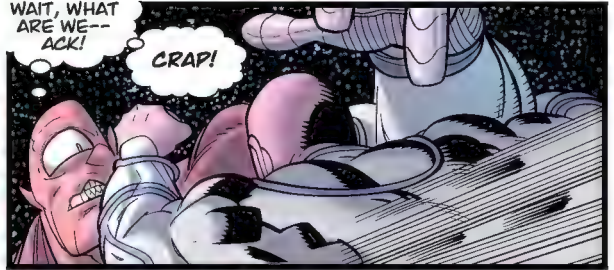
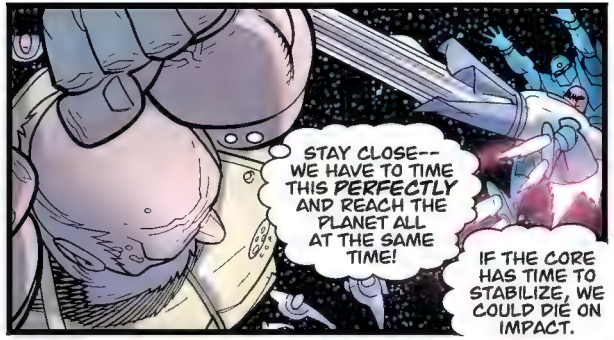
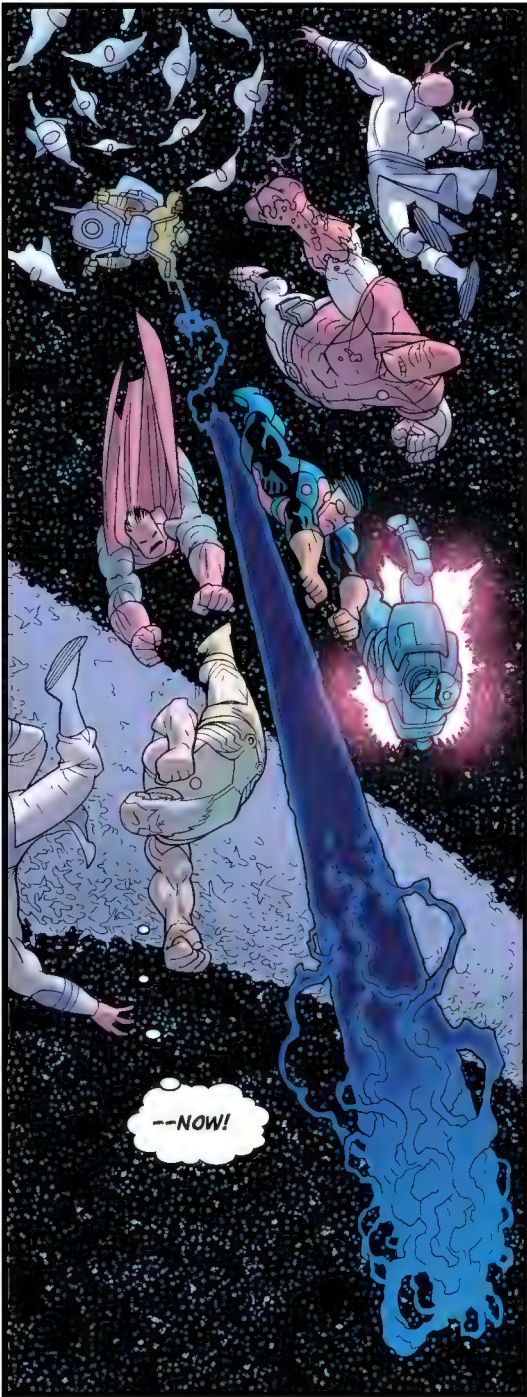
WHAT'S
GOING
ON OVER
THERE?

BEATS
ME.

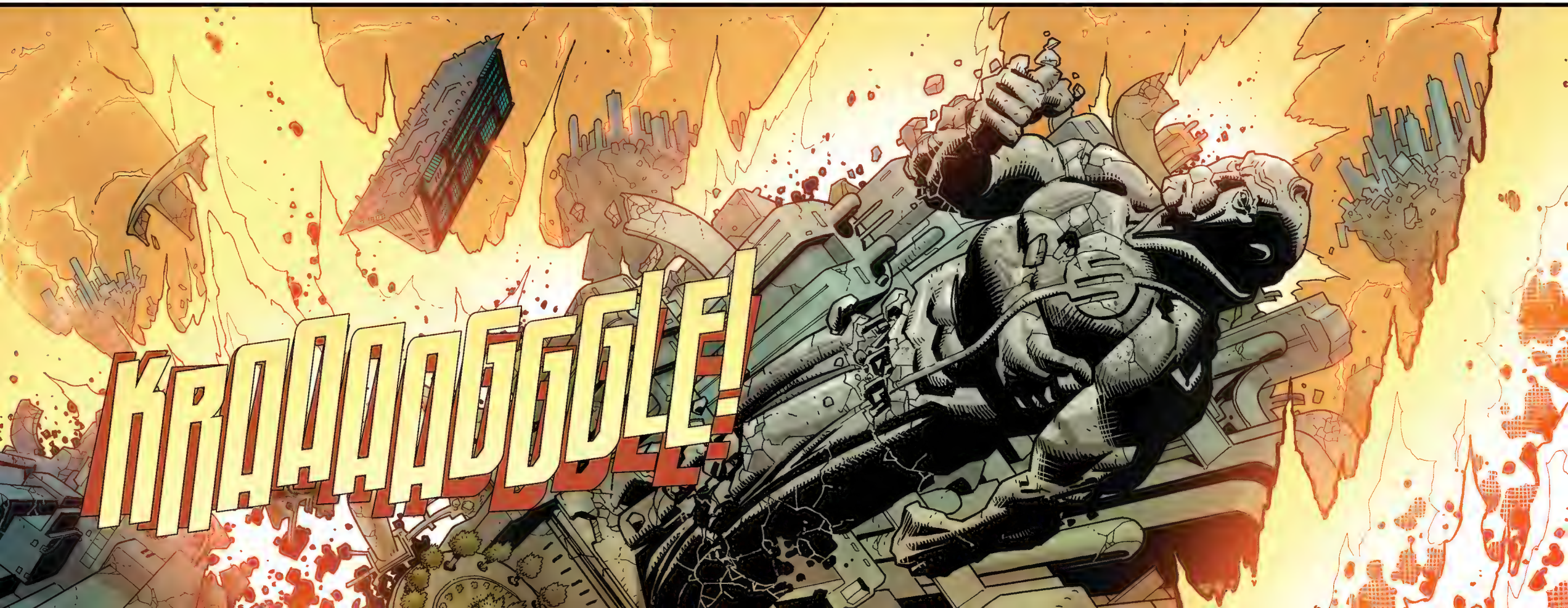
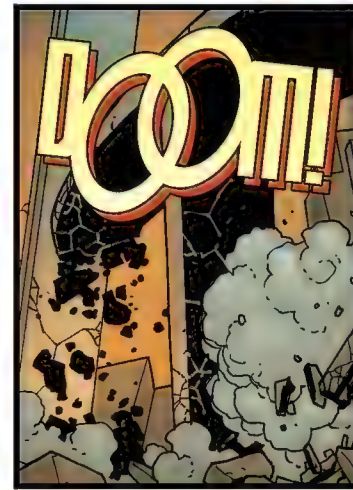
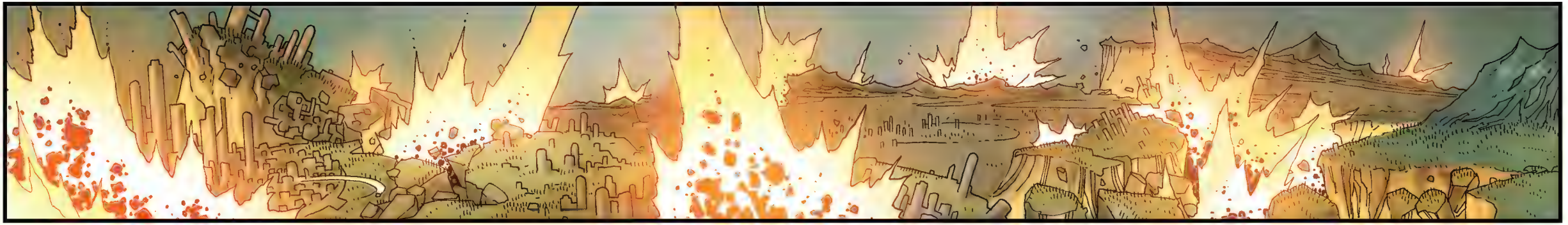
ALL OF
YOU--
WITH ME--
NOW!

WE'LL
ONLY GET
ONE SHOT
AT THIS!

SPACE
RACER--
DEAD CENTER,
FIRE YOUR
GUN--















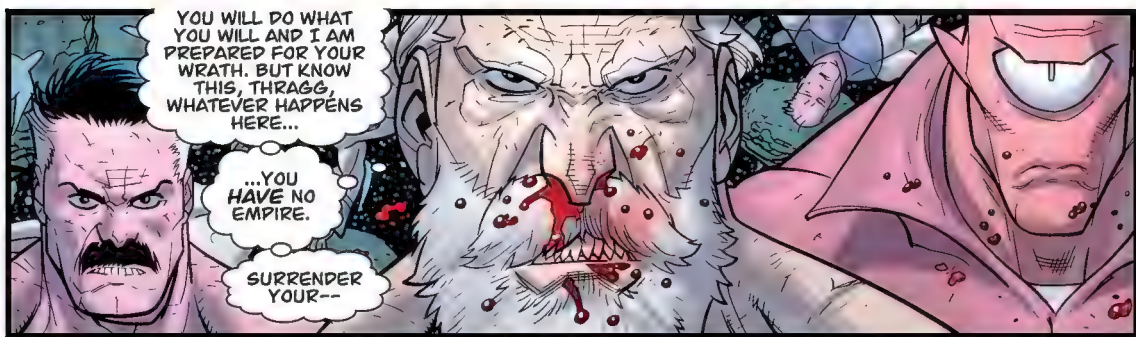




YOU BROUGHT
THIS UPON US ALL---
IT IS YOU WHO SET
THIS IN MOTION---
CARRIED IT OUT---
THAEPUS OF VILTRUM...
BETRAYER.

YOU HAVE
TAKEN IT ALL FROM
US. OUR HERITAGE,
OUR HOME...
OUR HISTORY...
DESTROYED.

THE VILTRUM
EMPIRE WILL
NOT STAND FOR
THIS!



YOU WILL DO WHAT
YOU WILL AND I AM
PREPARED FOR YOUR
WRATH. BUT KNOW
THIS, THRAGG,
WHATEVER HAPPENS
HERE...

...YOU
HAVE NO
EMPIRE.

SURRENDER
YOUR--



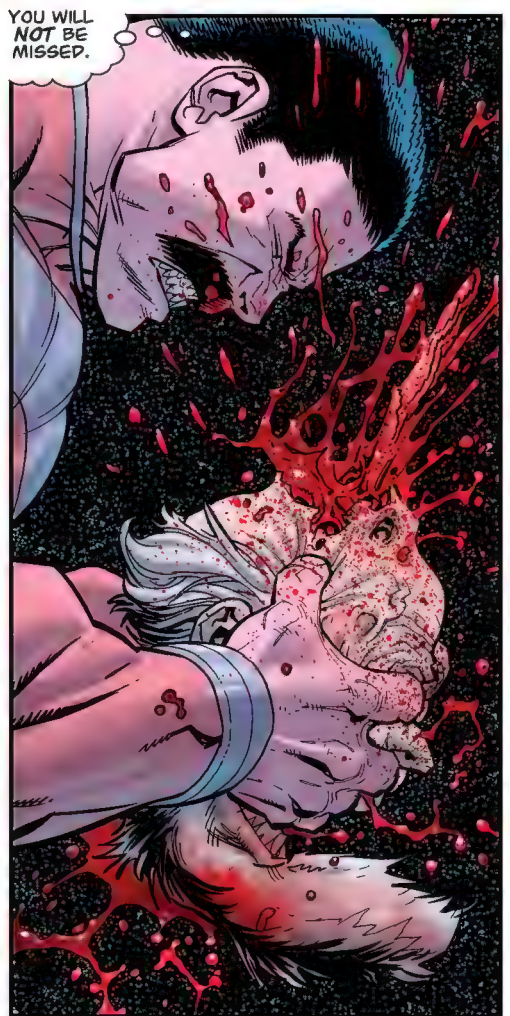
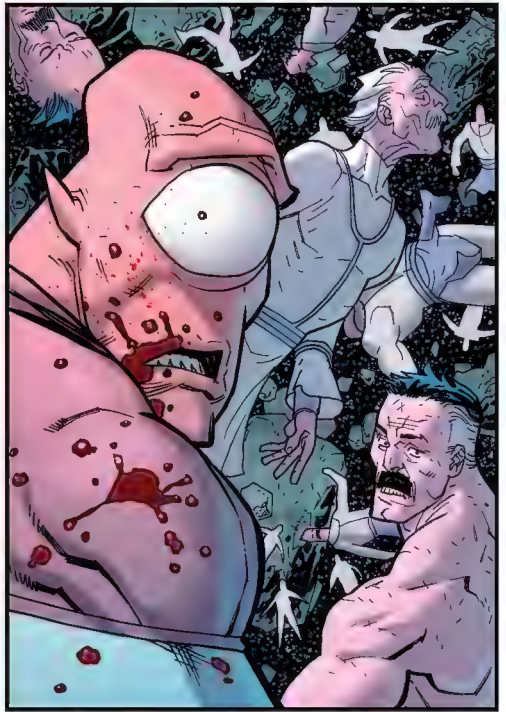
SURRENDER?!

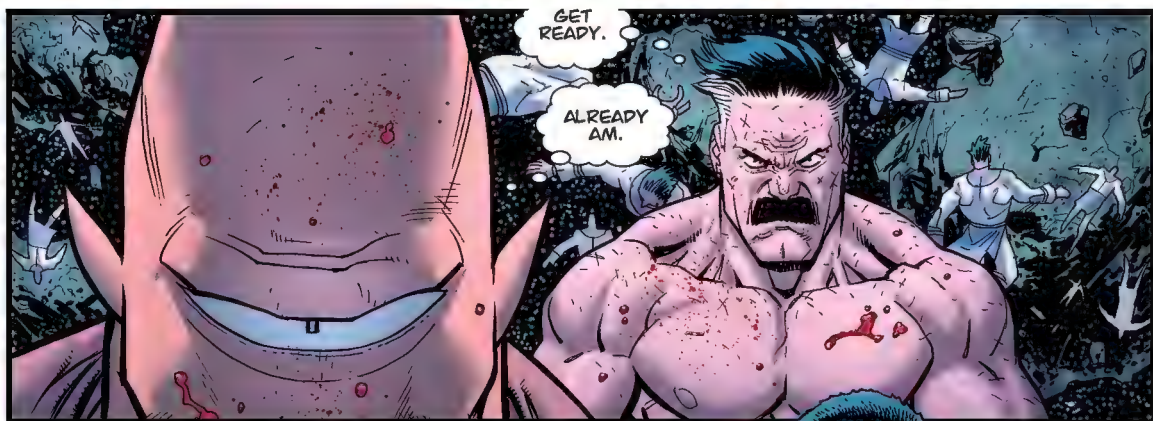
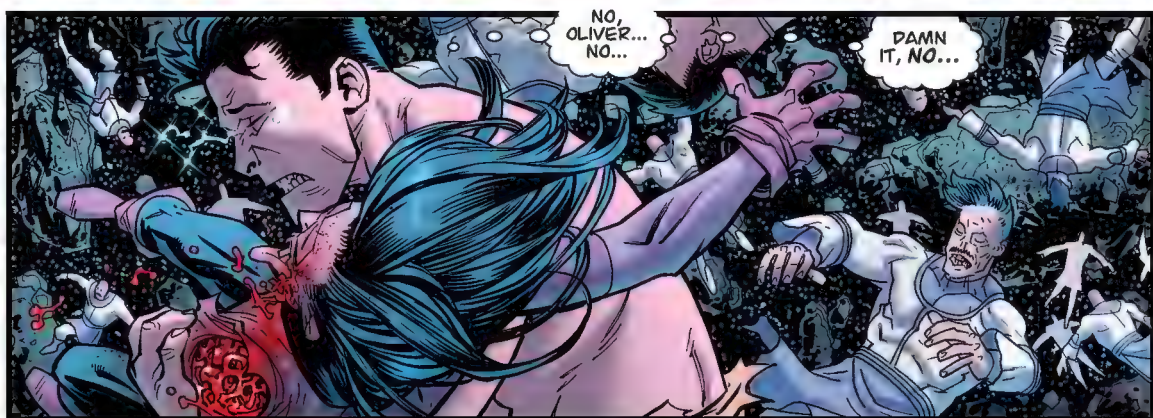
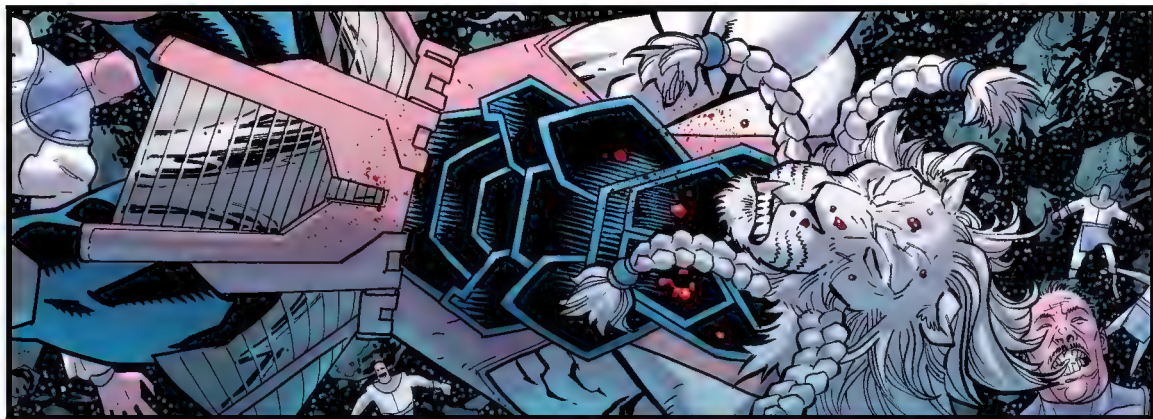
YOU
SICKEN
ME.

THERE
IS NOTHING
LEFT...



...BUT
REVENGE!

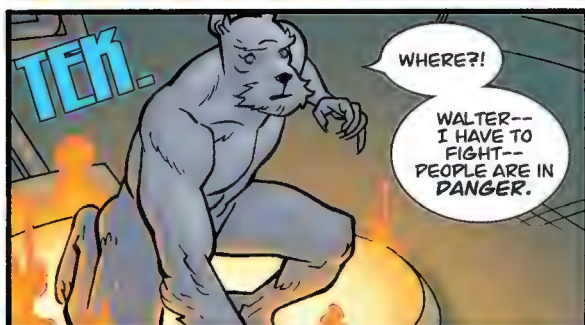






YOU
ARE ALL
NEXT.

SCIENCE DOG





WE ARE ADrift, STRANDED IN YOUR GALAXY. OUR FUEL SUPPLY IS SPENT AND WE HAVE NO MEANS OF OBTAINING MORE.

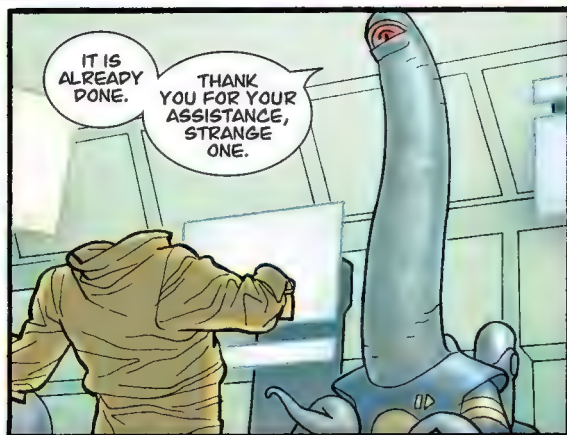
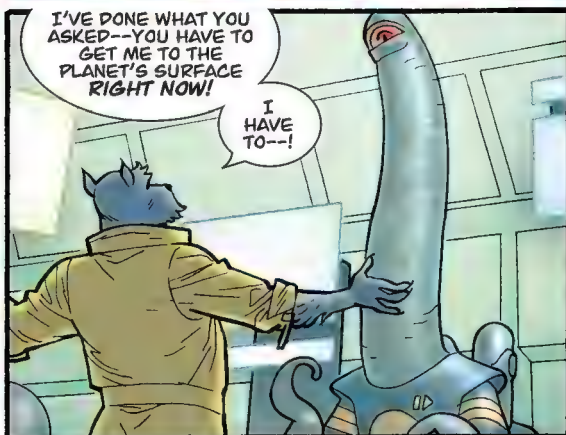
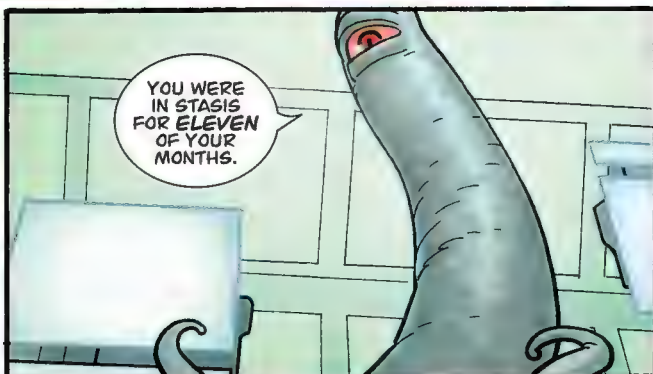
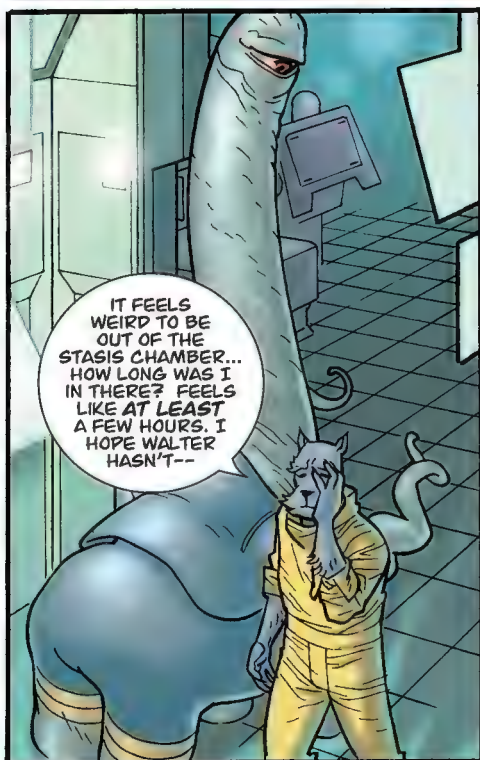
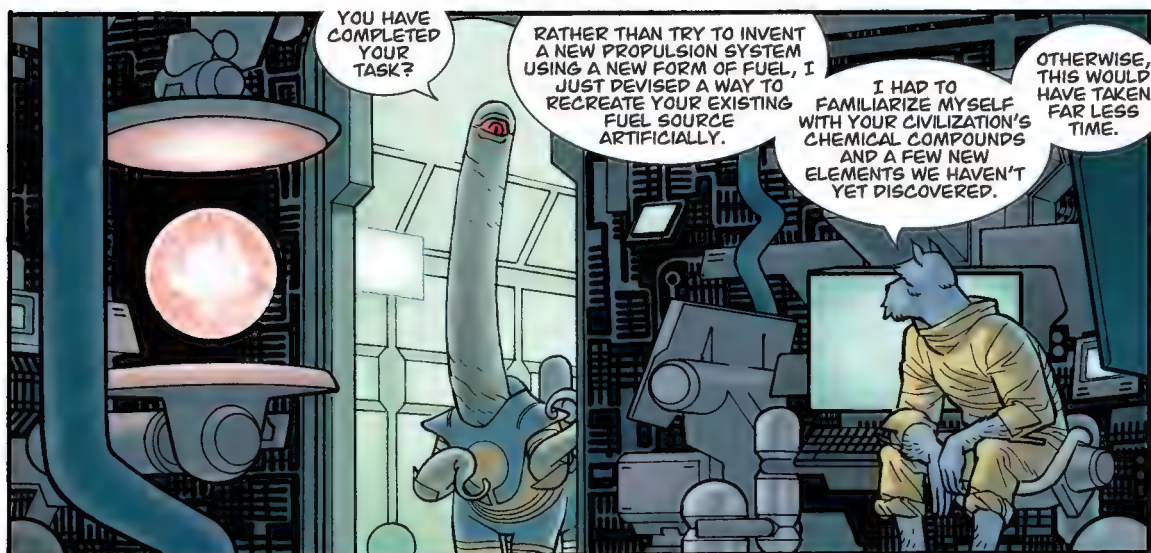
OUR READINGS OF YOUR PLANET REVEALED YOUR INTELLECT TO BE VASTLY SUPERIOR TO OUR OWN.

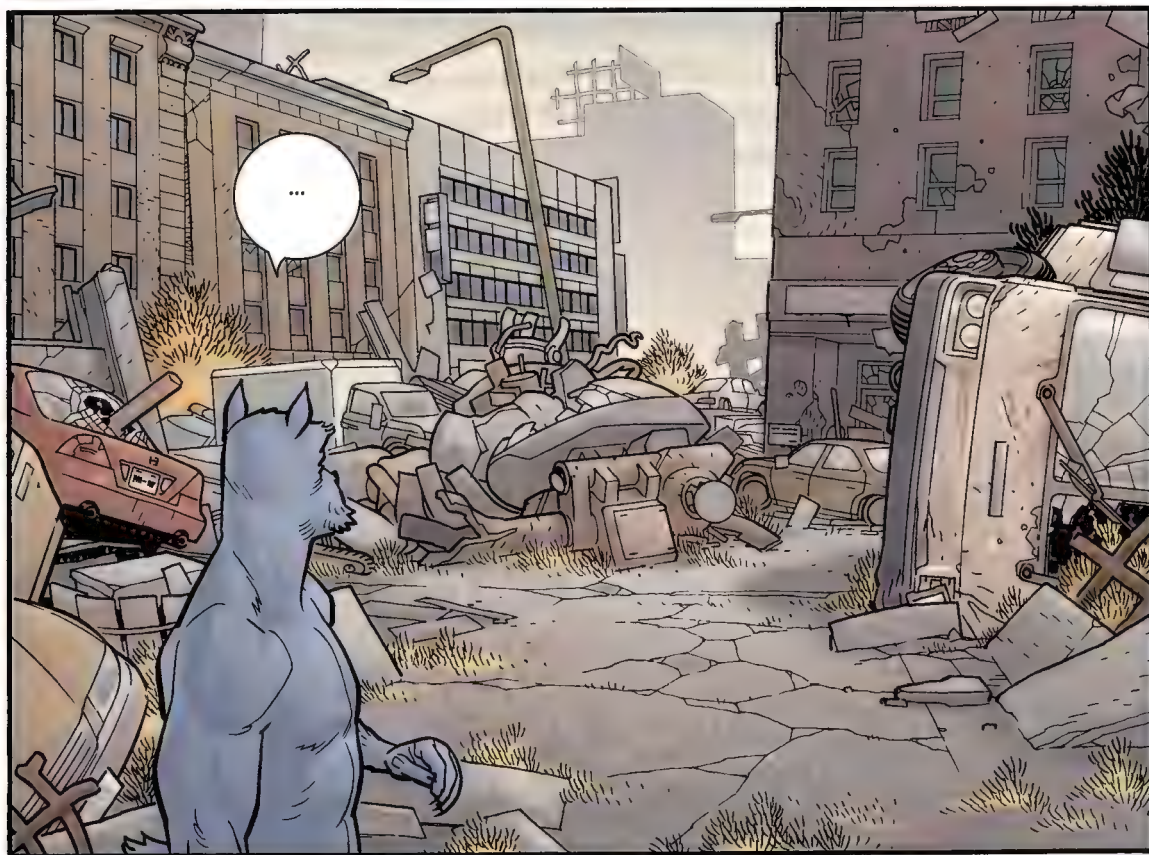
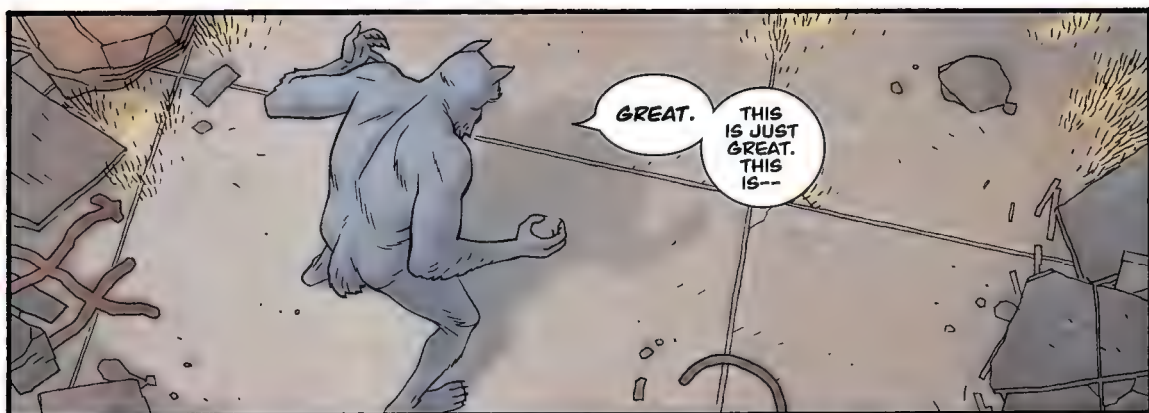
WE REQUEST THAT YOU DEVELOP AN ALTERNATIVE FUEL FOR OUR VESSEL. WE HAVE NO WISH TO HARM YOU OR YOUR PEOPLE, BUT IF YOU DO NOT CARRY OUT OUR REQUEST WE WILL DESTROY YOUR PLANET.

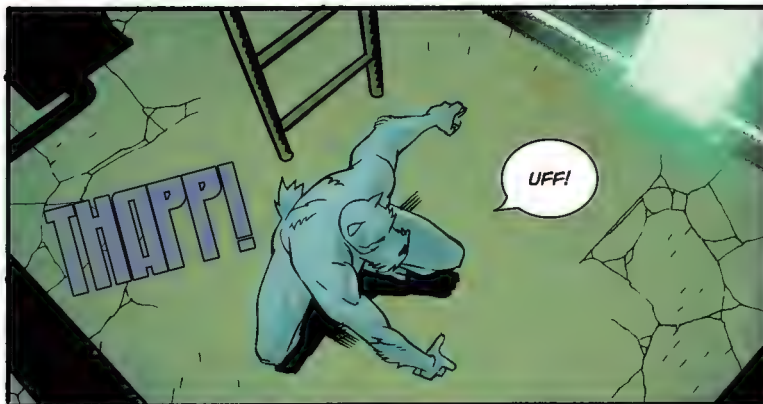
WE APOLOGIZE FOR THE THREAT, BUT WE ARE DESPERATE.

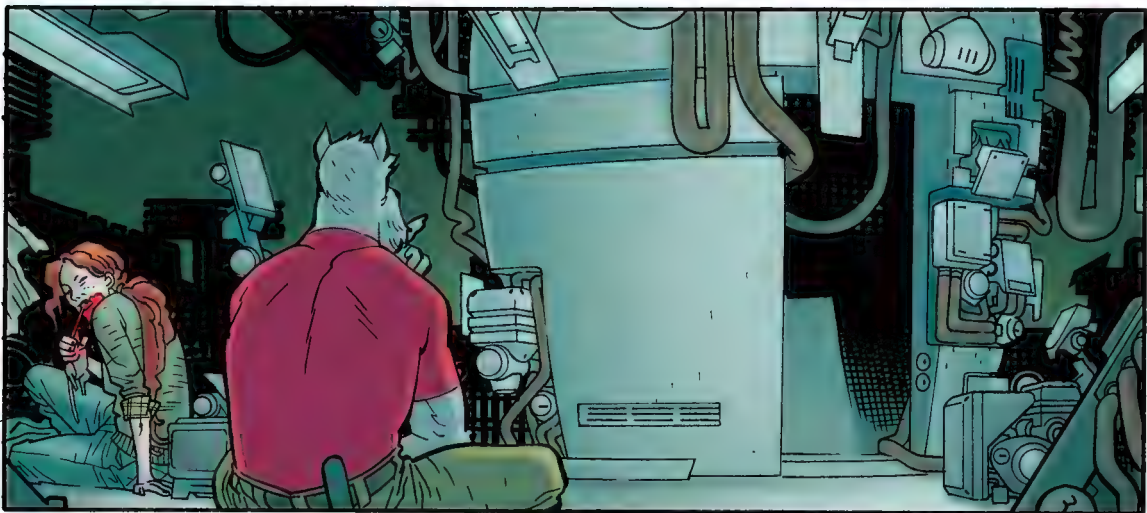
WE HAVE EQUIPPED OUR STASIS CHAMBER WITH EVERYTHING YOU WILL NEED. WHILE IN THIS CHAMBER YOU WILL NOT GROW TIRED OR HUNGRY AND WILL NOT FEEL THE PASSAGE OF TIME.

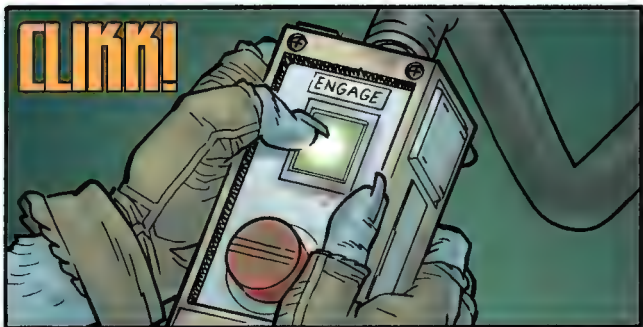
THIS TASK WILL REQUIRE A GREAT DEAL OF CONCENTRATION AND EFFORT, BUT WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL SUCCEED.











KR OOM!!

GRAAGH!!

SCIENCE
DOG!

I KNEW
YOU'D TURN UP
SOONER OR LATER.
SO YOU'VE BEEN
HIDING DOWN
HERE ALL THIS
TIME?!

AND WHAT'S
THIS? HAVE YOU
BEEN PLAYING WITH
DOCTOR COLLINS'
FAILED TIME MACHINE?
WHAT AN UTTER WASTE
OF EFFORT. FUNNY YOU
WOULD EVEN TRY TO
MAKE THAT THING
WORK, AFTER WHAT
IT DID TO US...

KLIK!

KLOK!

WIRRRRR!

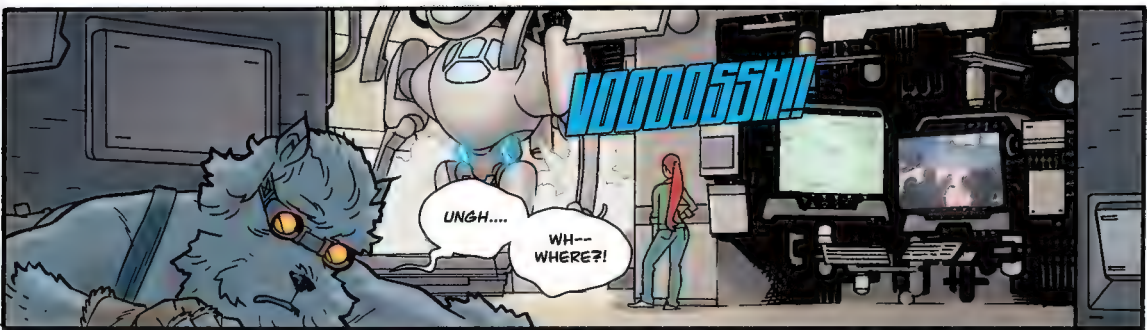
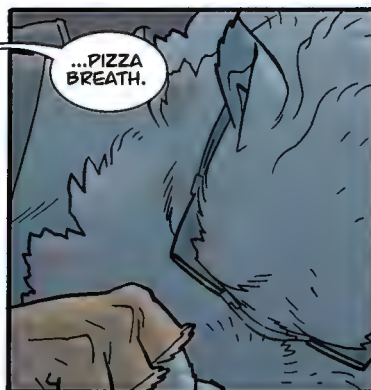
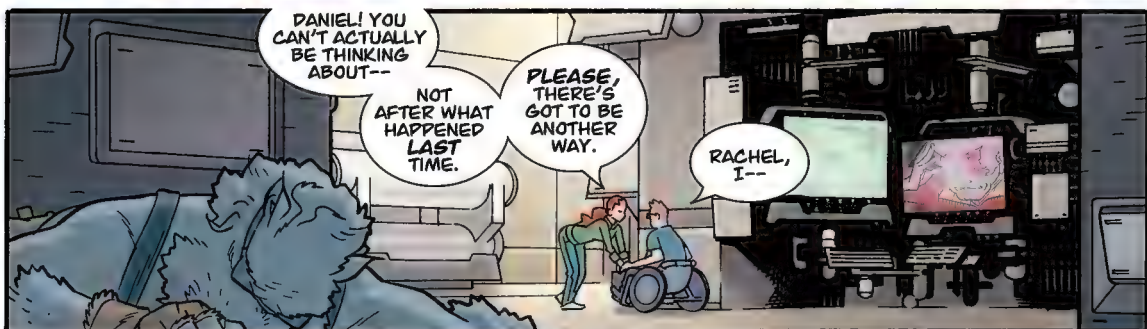
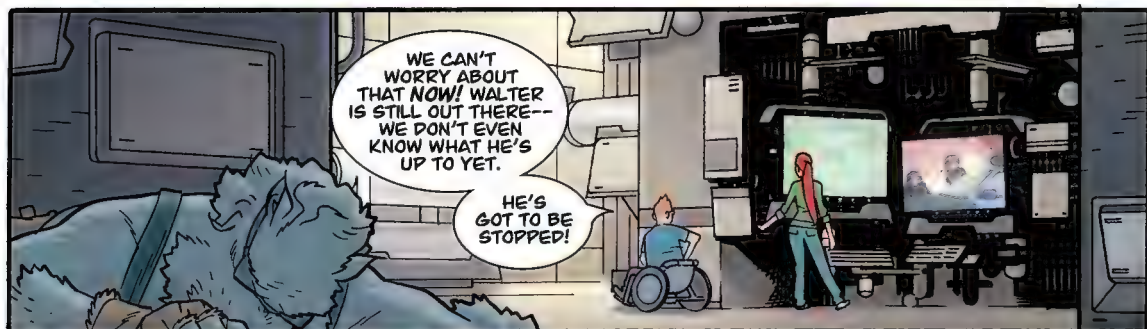
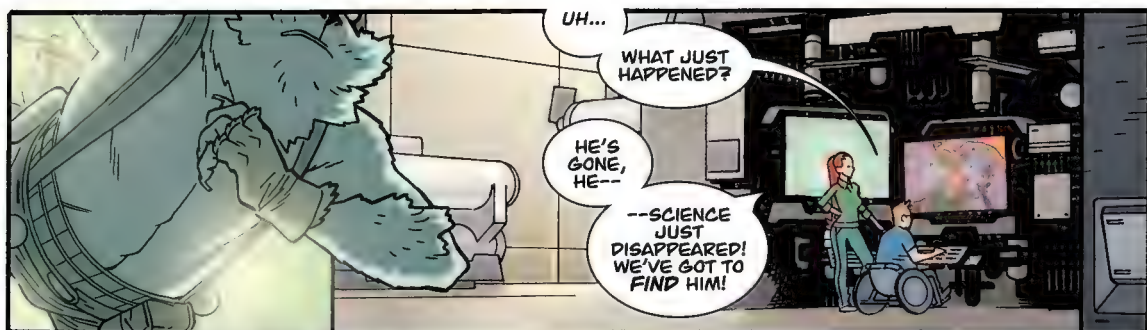
KLIK!

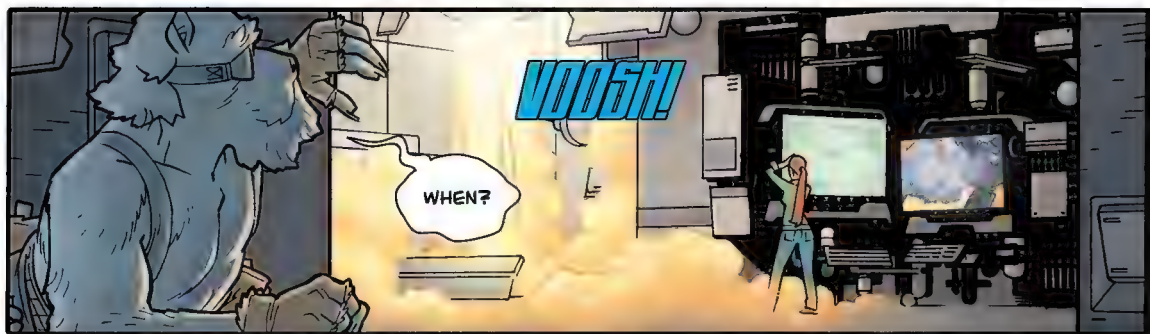
NO
TIME...

ACTIVATE---

--NOW!

IMPOSSIBLE!





VOOSH!

WHEN?



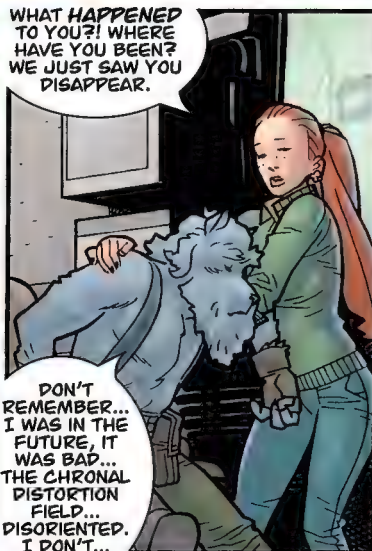
RACHEL?!

AAGGH!



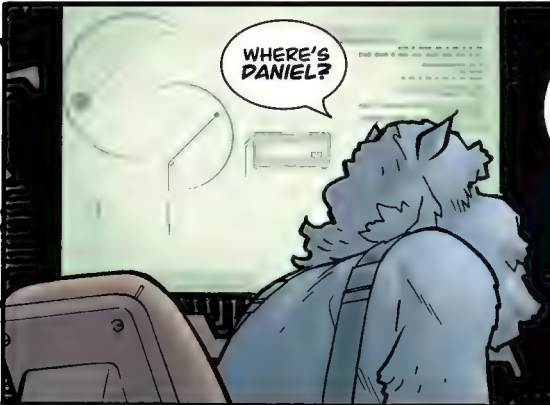
SO LONG...

IT'S BEEN SO LONG...

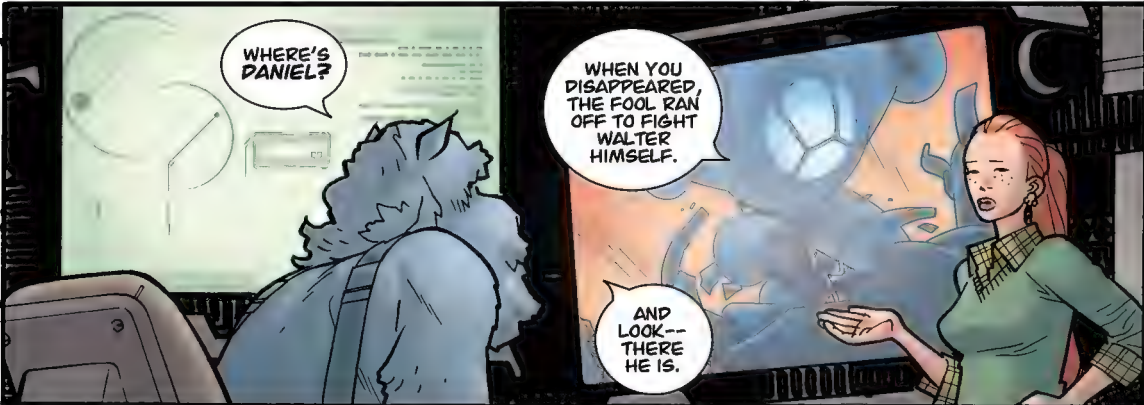


WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? WE JUST SAW YOU DISAPPEAR.

DON'T REMEMBER... I WAS IN THE FUTURE, IT WAS BAD... THE CHRONAL DISTORTION FIELD... DISORIENTED. I DON'T...



WHERE'S DANIEL?



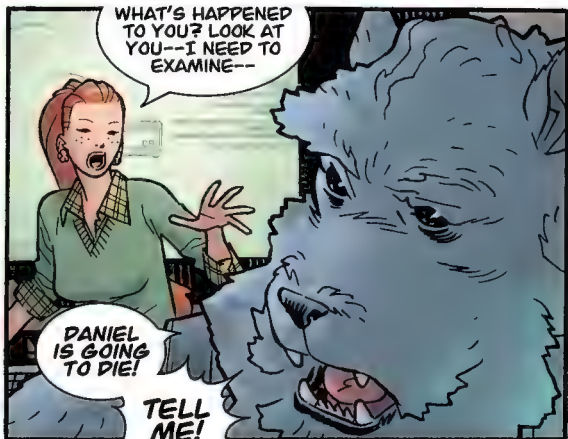
WHEN YOU DISAPPEARED, THE FOOL RAN OFF TO FIGHT WALTER HIMSELF.

AND LOOK-- THERE HE IS.



WAIT! THAT'S IT! I HAVE TO GO, SOMETHING VERY BAD IS GOING TO HAPPEN.

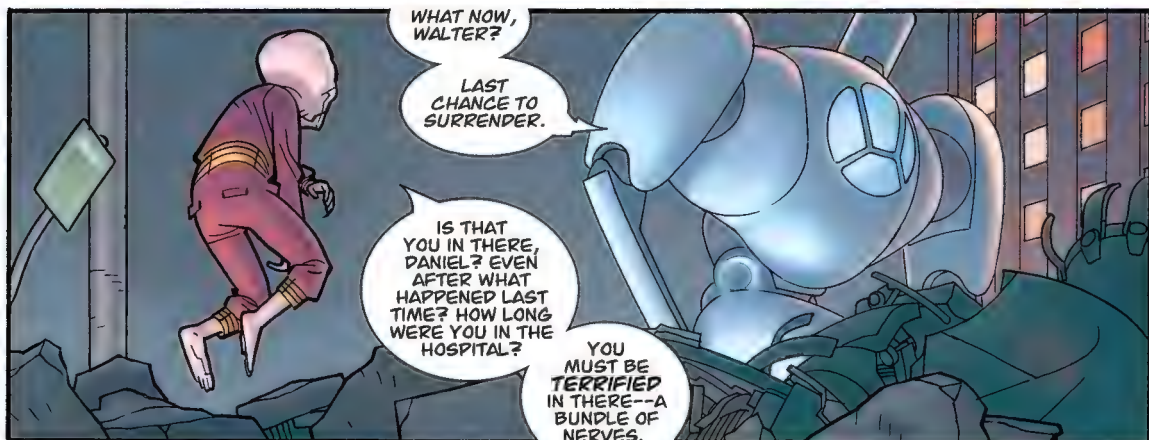
MY SPARE GEAR, WHERE DID I KEEP IT?



WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU? LOOK AT YOU--I NEED TO EXAMINE--

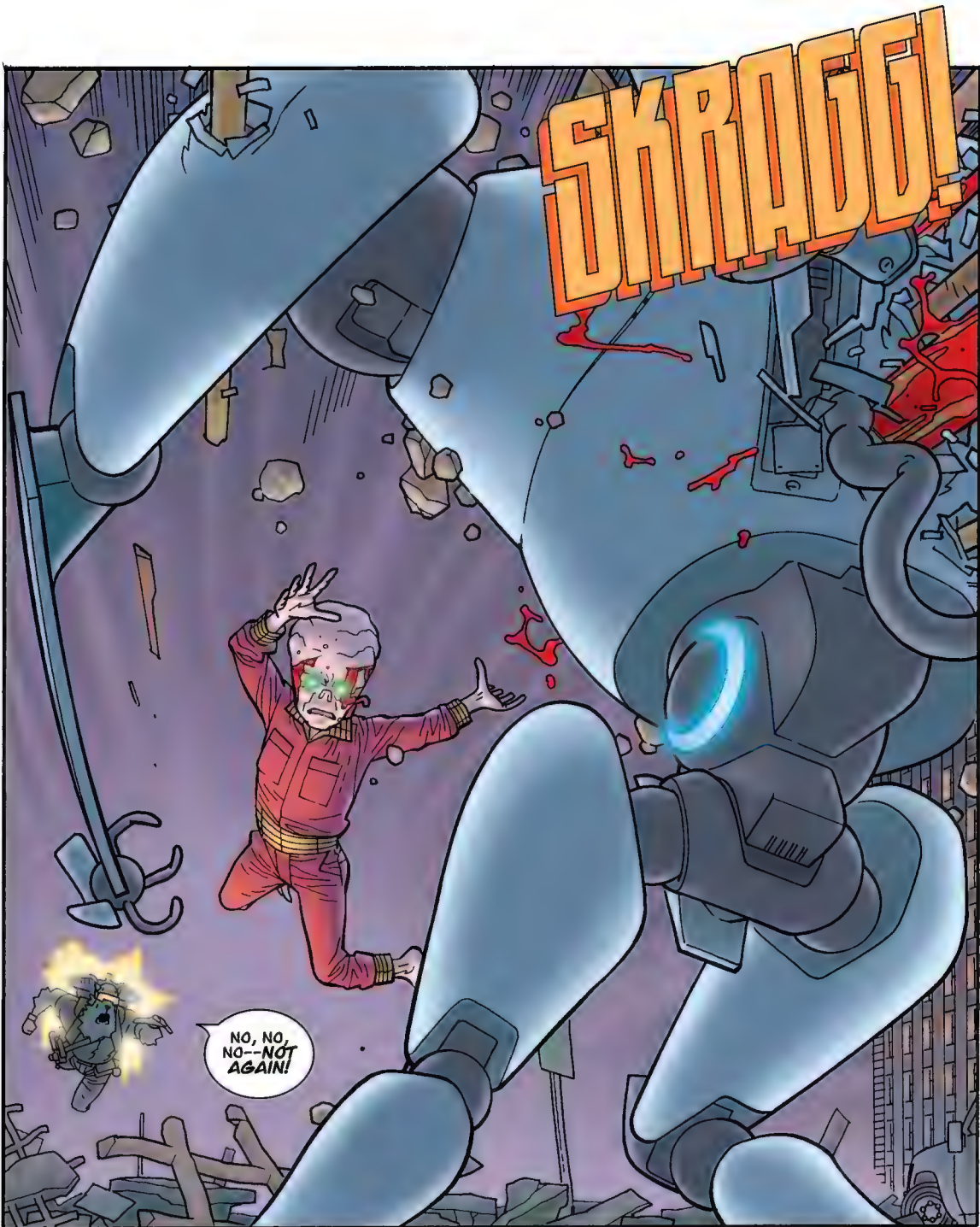
DANIEL IS GOING TO DIE!

TELL ME!



YOU'RE GOING TO NEED HIM TO RESCUE YOU VERY SOON.





WRITE US @

INVINCIBLE

C/O FUNK-O-TRON

P.O. BOX 1870

RICHMOND, KY 40476

INVINCIBLE@FUNKOTRON.COM

PEN INVINCIBLE PALS

First of all, I should probably apologize for the lateness. Ryan and I decided early on that we were just going to plug through this thing as fast as we could without sacrificing quality. It's not easy suddenly doing an extra 16 pages on a monthly book and when they're pages like the ones contained in this issue--even more so.

We figured in a few months when people look back on this story it'll be more important that it was awesome than on-time. So we decided not to rush it. I hope that it did indeed turn out to be awesome.

And if it didn't--SCIENCE DOG!! Holy heck, how about that, huh? It's always a blast to get back to doing Science Dog pages with Cory. I think this chapter might just be my favorite. I hope you guys dug it. In Science Dog news, I hope you're itching to see how this story wraps up--because you WILL NOT have to wait for Invincible 100.

As you know, we recently collected chapters 1 and 2, originally published in issues 25 and 50 of this fine series, in SCIENCE DOG SPECIAL #1. Well, we'll be reprinting the 3rd chapter as well as the all new 4th chapter in SCIENCE DOG SPECIAL #2, which will be in stores in February. Cory and I are very excited about finally seeing this story come together. The 4th chapter is the concluding chapter of the story--but not the concluding chapter of Science Dog itself--we'll see more of that guy eventually, don't you worry.

But back to Invincible for a moment. Holy heck did Ryan, Cliff and FCO kick ass this issue or what? What an amazing team I'm lucky enough to work with. I'm constantly in awe of what these fellas are able to pull off--and I'm always shocked to see them outdo themselves at every turn.

I hope this monumental anniversary issue lived up to your expectations. And hey--there's still a chapter of Tech Jacket coming up. So you've got that to look forward to!

But before we get to that... let's answer some mail, shall we?

Hey Kirkman,

As if I didn't already love Invincible enough! Now you've gone and done one of those badass growing a beard while stranded scenes! This isn't just any growing a beard while stranded scene either, it's like the Shakespeare of growing a beard while stranded scenes! You've got not one, not two, but THREE characters all sproutin' face fur simultaneously. I've seen the same thing done with Superman, Batman, Spider-Man, and other characters, but never three at the same time. Kinda makes me wonder though, why Wonder Woman and other female heroes can be stranded/held captive/whatever for long periods of time and still be smooth as a baby's bottom. How come when Wonder Woman is stranded, she doesn't turn up later with pit hair and scratchy legs?

Because that's gross!!

Man, this letter was already pretty weird, but maybe now I'm starting to come off sorta creepy. Sorry. I'm not a body hair fetishist or anything like that, I just think beards are badass. Maybe Nolan should keep his, at least for a while. I mean, he is no longer affiliated with the Viltrum Empire, so he doesn't have to wear the regulation 'stashe anymore, right?

Totally not a creep,

Joseph Gray

Joseph, I hate to break it to you, but you might, in fact, be a creep. Although the jury is still out. I love beards as much as the next guy, as long as the next guy isn't you, but the wooly look, I think, might get old after a while. So I hope you weren't too disappointed to see that we lost the beards in this issue--although they did survive through issue 74 so you've got to be a little happy.

Hello Invincible Crew,

Way psyched to see a Guardians of the Globe book coming soon! (On the back cover of Invincible #73) This raises some questions for me though: does this mean that there is no longer going to be room in Invincible for their adventures? Are we going to see the events of Immortal's prophetic paragraph (when Mark was time traveling) start to come together? (That is one of my all time favorite shocker moments in comics)

As you can see, this series is not showing at all what is happening on Earth during the year or so that will go by during the events of the Viltrumite War, the Guarding the Globe mini will cover that gap. After Invincible returns to Earth, the Globe mini will be over, so it won't be a problem... unless we decide to do another mini-series... hmmm.

I thought that the Guardians added a nice group dynamic and relief to Invincible and I hope that their new series will continue to do so. Is that book going to address what happened to Robot and Monster girl when they followed the aliens through the portal or will that be resolved in Invincible?

I'm not telling... you'll have to pick up issue 6 of Guarding the Globe to find out.

-Sean

Oh, and:

Will Battle Beast ever find peace? His frozen stuttering "More...more" made me feel bad for him. Which is kind of silly, I know.

Not silly at all, the guy definitely has problems. We'll be seeing more of him in the future, but I doubt he'll be at peace.

Hey team,

I just read issue 73. Holy hell was it great. The Viltrumite War has been a great read. I really enjoyed seeing Nolan and Oliver get their bonding time in. Especially page 18. The first panel shows Nolan and Oliver chatting and eating while the next one shows the war going on. Same goes for page 19. Montage FTW. Mark with a beard looks like a young Wolverine but I dig it. Everyone should grow beards...metal beards during this war.

Ryan and FCO Plascencia I love the Viltrumite War covers. They remind me of movie posters. If you continue doing this after the war I will be extremely happy. Keep up the great work,

Bosco

Thanks.

Dear Robert,

To be honest the issue kind of droned a bit, but still good enough for Best Comic Of The Night! I feel like I have a lot more to say, but I'll leave it at that!

Sincerely,

Andrew J. Shaw

Thanks.

YE GODS!

I've been having a bad few days of late. I won't bore you with details, but page six of issue #73 cheered me up no end. Thanks for that.

- kelvin green

Thanks.

Kirkman and Co.,

Excellent dose of Invincible this month, despite the title character being more or less out of commission the whole time. The fact that this has been one of my favorite issues despite that (BATTLE BEAST!!!!) is once again a testament to how rich the Kirkmaverse has become. Almost 75 issues now. Amazing.

I know... I really can't believe we've already made it to issue 75. It feels like we've only just started this book--I have so much more planned. Hopefully Ryan and I will still be plugging along at issue 150 and beyond.

I loved the interaction between Nolan and Oliver a lot, of course, but the semi-bonding of Allen and Zack was slick too (nice Empire nod)... All in all, a great change of pace from

last month's rager, but still...I can't wait to see the Viltrumite King throw down.... Is that really what Freddie Mercury looked like?

Not at all...

Bring on the Space Sharks!!!! Oh, and speaking of which...

I was on my way home from Phish tour this past Sunday when I realized I hadn't snatched up a copy of Sea Bear & Grizzly Shark yet... I managed to track one down on the road and snagged it for my July 4th holiday. Nicely done, Mr. Ottley, I laughed quite a bit with that one! Instant Classic...

Some questions if I may?

1) The Tech-Jacket backups are pretty sweet. What are the chances of Zack getting his own book back?

Pretty good, actually.

2) Nolan mentioned that Viltrumites get stronger as they age, do I remember that right?

It depends on if they're exercising and keeping in shape--but yeah. It does eventually reach a cap. Conquest was probably actually losing his strength a bit because of his age.

3) Do we even know WHAT Battle Beast is??? Who cares, MORE BATTLE BEAST!!!!

We know about as much about Battle Beast as we ever will, well, almost..

Alright, that's it for this month. See ya in 30!!!!

Cam Stylez

P.S. Seriously... More Battle Beast.

Will do, pal.

And with that I'm going to bring this letters column to a close. Make sure you check out Tech Jacket, starting on the next page! How's that for convenient?

After that we've got a sweet pin-up by MING DOYLE who I believe has a website at www.mingdoyle.com (check that out, Sina). She's amazing, so look her art up.

After that... we've got some sweet ads! It's awesome!

And now I will leave you for the time being. I hope to see you all back here very soon, not longer than a month, I hope.

Thanks for reading!

-Robert Kirkman

TECH JACKET

CHAPTER 5 of 8

WRITTEN BY: ROBERT KIRKMAN &
AUBREY SITTERSON

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COLORS BY: RON RILEY

LETTERING BY: RUS WOOTON



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